

PLAIN TALKS

April/May 1979



**Nelson 6: an orchestration
of teamwork...page six**

Windfall profits?

Look who's talking

President Carter's repeated lambasting of "windfall profits" as nasty economic and civic sins would sound more convincing if the federal government weren't profiteering from windfall tax revenues on a scale that makes oil company profits look like penny ante.

Taxpayers thrown into ever-higher tax brackets by inflation are generating massive windfall profits for the government, so it's no wonder neither Congress nor the Carter administration is doing anything useful to hold inflation down.

You got a 10 percent raise last year, for simple example, boosting your taxable income from \$20,000 to \$22,000, which ostensibly should have kept you about even, given last year's inflation rate. But you generated a windfall for the government.

ASSUMING A SPOUSE and two children, your taxes went up almost 20 percent, from \$2,536 to \$3,036. The government got \$500, or 25 percent, of your \$2,000 raise. You ended up paying 13.8 percent of your total salary to the IRS instead of 12.6 percent. And with the extra tab for Social Security, it's no wonder you felt as if you were slipping behind financially in spite of your raise.

For every percentage point of inflation, it's estimated that the federal government gets a \$1.6 billion windfall in extra taxes — hardly an incentive for curbing inflation.

Suppose, for a related example, your wife decided to go to work to help with the family bills. She made \$10,000 last year. The marriage tax, which President Carter admits is unfair but hasn't tried to change, means her salary gets taxed on top of yours at a much higher rate than if she were single. That \$10,000 cost you, as a couple, an additional \$3,101 in taxes. The government took 31 percent of her income plus her Social Security payments — and you are now paying 19.1 percent of your combined salaries in income taxes.

THE INSISTENCE that married working couples pile one income on top of the other for tax purposes (couples using the "married filing separately" tax tables still pay married, not single, rates) creates another enormous windfall profit for the IRS. The incomes of these 15 million couples are taxed at far higher rates than they would be as single workers, even if they were living together in what President Carter calls sin.

A married working woman also pays for Social Security coverage that duplicates much of her husband's — also providing a handsome windfall profit for the government.

Despite snags in Congress, President Carter stands a much better chance of curbing windfall profits for the oil companies than taxpayers have of getting a fair shake from Congress. The small tax cut Congress did vote last year for 1979 incomes is going to be more than washed out by inflation and higher tax brackets.

THERE'S LITTLE likelihood that the Carter administration would support, or Congress would pass, a genuine income-indexing system that would adjust tax rates for inflation. In fact, Congress seems to be backing away from any inclinations it may have had last fall to give taxpayers a break. Enthusiasm for cutting spending or even holding increases to President Carter's 7 percent guideline has dwindled.

Surveys in recent months show voter dissatisfaction with taxes has reached historic highs; 80 percent of people, for example, think taxes are unreasonably high and 69 percent say they have reached a breaking point. But in Washington, the myriad special interest groups that push for spending are clearly winning — as usual — over the diffuse demands of unorganized taxpayers for relief.

The more President Carter talks about windfall profits, the more he may remind taxpayers of the windfall profits the federal government takes from them. And if they decide they can't count on elected officials for relief, they might be more inclined to try sledgehammer remedies like calling a convention to draft a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

If President Carter looks over his shoulder, he'll see something is gaining on him. New Hampshire recently became the 30th state to vote for a convention — and only 34 are needed to do so.

—Joan Beck
Chicago Tribune

Mail Box

Gulf States Utilities Company
Beaumont, Texas

Congratulations on your new billing service. This is real progress. It tells me you care about me as a customer and want me to clearly understand exactly what I am paying for.

I like that. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Edna Earl Duke
Beaumont

Gulf States Utilities Company
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Last week the lights in my house began flickering and sometimes would go almost completely out. I called Mr. Noland Daigle with Gulf States and explained my trouble to him. He told me he would send a man out to my house and try to correct the problem.

There was a man at my house by noon of the same day. This man was very courteous to me and took care of my problem.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Gulf States for giving me such good service in this matter.

Thanking you very kindly, I am

Yours truly,

J. J. Crisler
Baton Rouge

Editor's note: The serviceman who responded so courteously and efficiently to this call was George Hima.

Mr. Carl Beaumont
Gulf States Utilities Company
Port Arthur, Texas

It's a shame old friends don't get together or see one another except in trying times such as we had last Monday night. I want to thank you and your fellow employees at Gulf States for the tremendous amount of work done in helping us get our drainage pumps operating. I am sure any less effort would have resulted in major flooding of homes throughout our area.

If I can be of assistance please feel free to call on me at any time.

Sincerely,

Dave Smith, Jr.
Commissioner, Jefferson County, Pct. 3

Plain Talks

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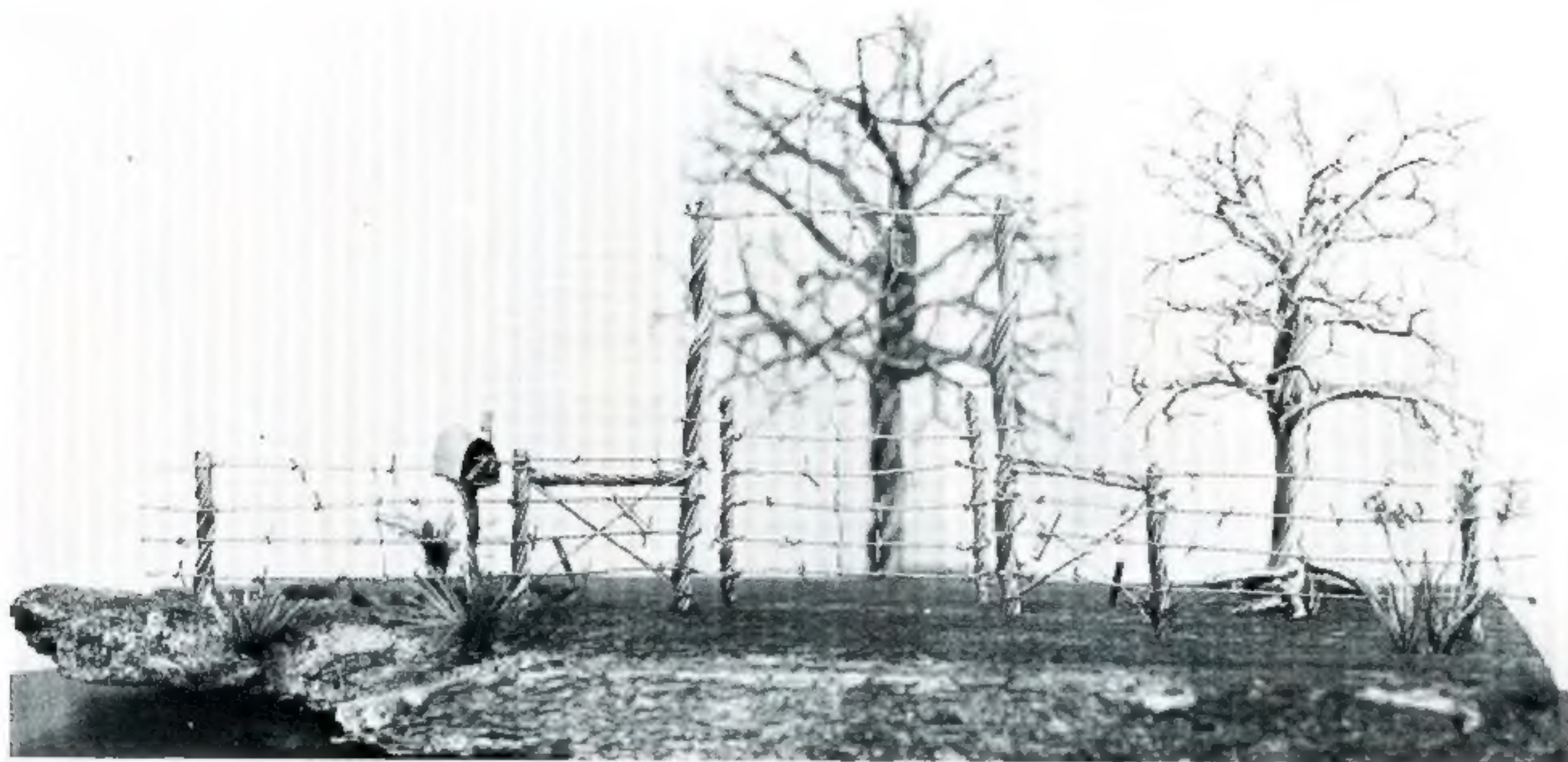
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Director/ Employee Information — Ray Funderburk

Editor — Gary Dias

Member

Houston



Jerry McHam: Wired for art

Jerry McHam has a hobby he's really wrapped up in. Literally.

By day a consumer service representative at the company's Conroe office, McHam collects copper wire discarded by the division transmission and distribution department. At night, Jerry McHam, the artist, emerges and transforms these apparently useless strands of wire into miniature wire trees and other artworks.

How did he get involved in such an unusual hobby?

It all began about a year ago, explains McHam. "Another gentleman had some on display at the library. I couldn't afford any of his work and, anyway, I thought I could do as well or better.

"I DIDN'T THINK of it as an artform to begin with," he adds, "but I guess it is."

And, as his wire art skills have developed so has the scope of his work. In addition to trees, McHam now does ranch scenes complete with barb wire fence, mailboxes and yucca plants, all done with painstaking care to detail.

"It's funny what people will look for when they look at one of these. The first time I put a mail box on one of these people asked why there wasn't any mail in the box," he recalls. McHam, a student of detail, soon remedied that. Inside the box, he now puts tiny aluminum letters and a miniature newspaper bound with an almost undetectable copper "rubber" band.

"You've just got to use your imagination," he says.

SINCE HE COULD find no books on this type of artwork, McHam has had to be both teacher and student. But the best teacher, he maintains, has been experience. Take for instance the blooms on the yucca plants. McHam discovered how to make them quite by accident when making one of the miniature mail boxes from an aluminum beer can. When he cut the tab on the can, he discovered that it curled up and could be used for the bloom on his tiny yucca plants.

Even though he makes several other things from the wire now, the trees remain his specialty. And, he's pretty fast about it too, taking about an hour and a half to complete an average tree from start to finish. The largest of the trees, however, and his favorite, took 78 feet of wire and 3½ hours to finish.

As a finishing touch, most of the trees are painted

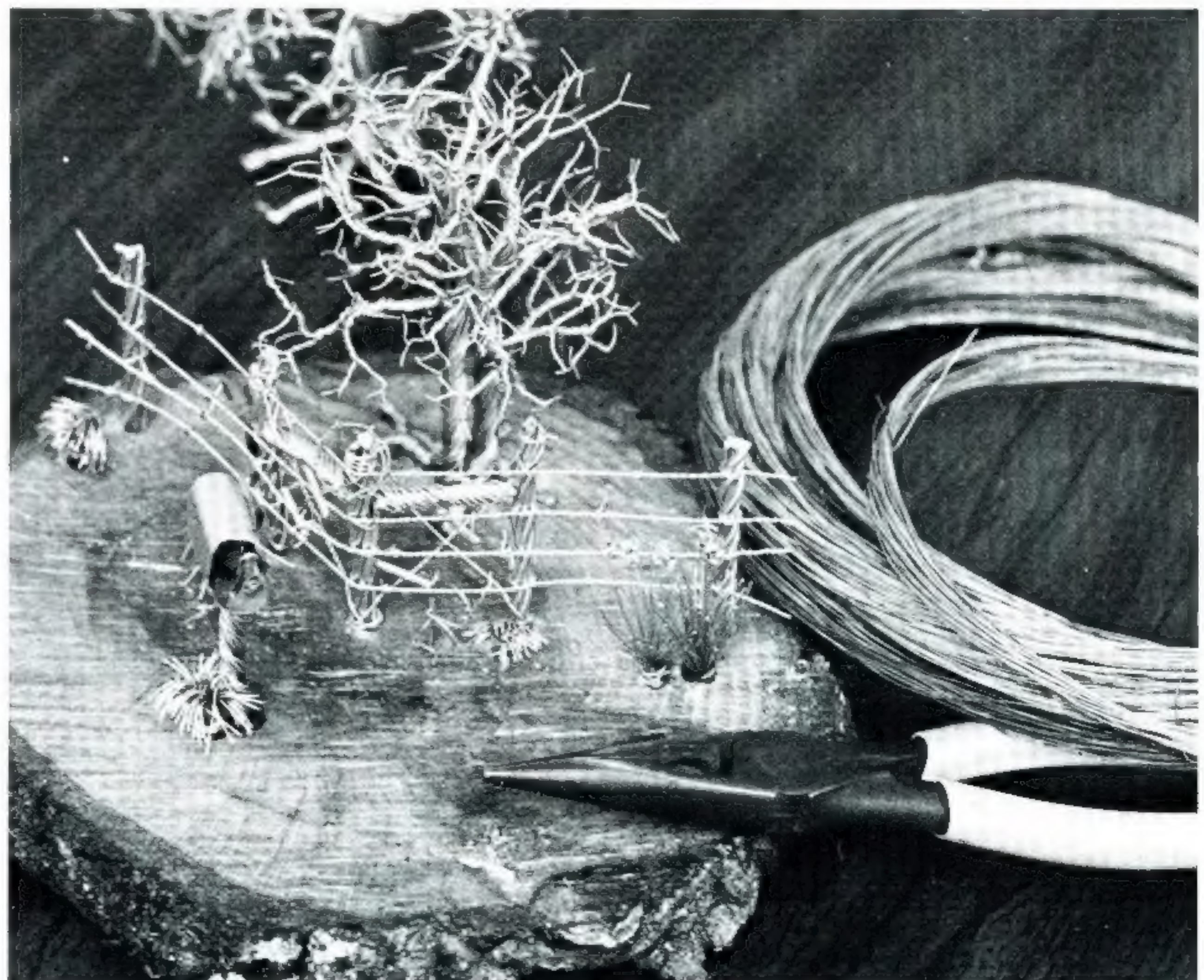
with copper-colored spray paint but a few are left the natural dull black color of the wire.

THE RANCH SCENE takes McHam about seven hours to complete. "I've made about seven but I've only kept one," he said, joking that the copper M over the ranch's gate doesn't stand for McHam. "It stands for mine."

McHam says that making things from copper wire isn't that difficult "once you know what you're doing." But he emphasizes the importance of visualization.

"You've got to be able to see it in your mind. If you can't, you can't make it."

— Gary Dias



Energy store opens in Beaumont

The second Energy Store in the GSU system opened in Beaumont's Parkdale Mall in April and has been doing a "booming business".

In fact, according to Sam Badger, supervisor of consumer information services for the Beaumont division, at least 20,000 people will be reached in a year if response continues at the present rate.

"In a month at our Energy Information Center at the main office, we were lucky to get 10 people from the general public a week," says Badger, noting that on the average about 95 people visit the Energy Store every day. On some days, however, the total is much higher, he points out. "One Saturday, we had 350 people through."

The store, open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, is staffed with three fulltime energy conservation advisors. Billy Creel, energy information coordinator, heads a staff of two consumer service representatives, Thomas Lightfoot and Barbie Vinson. Debra Bruce helps out part time.

Although the concept is the same, the Beaumont store is different in format from its Baton Rouge counterpart, which opened in Cortana Mall in

January. The Beaumont store is housed in a kiosk or island in the center of the mall. "We had the choice of a store setup or this but, because of the traffic flow, we decided to go to a kiosk," says Badger.

Since the Energy Store opened, requests for National Energy Watch home audits have increased

about 50 percent, estimates Badger.

Badger admits the location of the mall is probably a major contributor to the store's success. "This is the only mall of its type within a 60-mile radius of Beaumont and most area residents come to Parkdale quite frequently."



Beaumont Mayor Maurey Myers (center) cuts the ribbon officially opening the GSU Energy Store in Parkdale Mall. Also present were mall Manager Charles Upham (left) and GSU President Norman Lee.

What is the fuel adjustment clause?

(Editor's note: The fuel adjustment clause has traditionally been misunderstood by electric utility ratepayers since its inception. The following, written by Rate Department personnel, should make things a little easier the next time you're put on the spot by a confused customer or friend.)

The fuel adjustment clause is a system that allows utility companies to adjust customer bills up or down automatically as fuel costs paid by the company rise and fall. Without this method of recovering fuel costs, GSU and other electric utility companies would be forced to petition their respective regulatory bodies for a rate increase each time fuel costs go up. And, in this time of rapidly rising fuel prices, this procedure would be extraordinarily time consuming and expensive.

In both Louisiana and Texas, GSU customers are charged only for the fuel needed to generate the amount of electricity they use. This is shown as a separate item under the fuel adjustment portion of the customer's bill.

The presence of the fuel clause on each month's bill lets the customers know what is happening to fuel costs, thereby allowing them to alter their electric usage accordingly. The charges are based on usage, which mean customers can lower their costs by practicing conservation. This clause is reviewed and approved monthly by the Louisiana Commission at formal hearings and reviewed periodically by the Texas Commission.

The fuel clause may seem unpleasant at bill-paying time, but it is the only practical way to charge customers for the fuel ingredient that keeps the electricity flowing to their homes and businesses.

A regular quarterly dividend of 34 cents per share on common stock was declared by the GSU board of directors at its May 9 meeting.

The dividend is payable June 15, 1979 to shareholders of record May 22, 1979.

Holloway elected to GSU board

Frederic A. L. Holloway of Baton Rouge was elected to the GSU board of directors May 10 at the annual shareholders meeting in Beaumont.

Dr. Holloway recently retired from Exxon Corporation as vice president of science and technology and previously served as president of Esso Engineering and Research.

He replaces Arthur Temple, who did not seek reelection to the board. The other 12 board members were re-elected. In addition to Board Chairman Don Crawford they are:

- John W. Barton, president of Jack's Cookie Company, Baton Rouge.
- Edwin W. Hiam, investment adviser, Boston, Mass.
- William H. LeBlanc, Jr., president of Baton Rouge Supply Co., Inc., Baton Rouge.
- Norman R. Lee, president and chief operating officer of GSU, Beaumont.
- Dr. Paul W. Murrill, chancellor of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.
- Alvin T. Raetzsch, Sr., assistant to the vice president and general manager, Chemical Division-U.S., PPG Industries, Inc., Lake Charles, La.
- Dr. Monroe T. Rathbone, Jr., medical doctor, Baton Rouge.
- Dr. Lorene S. Rogers, president of the University of Texas at Austin.
- Nathaniel S. Rogers, chairman of the board of First City National Bank of Houston and president of First City Bancorporation of Texas, Inc., Houston.
- Bismark A. Steinhagen, partner in Steinhagen



Frederic A. L. Holloway

Oil Company, Beaumont.

- James E. Taussig II, real estate developer and realtor, Lake Charles.

Several hundred shareholders attended the meeting during which Crawford described 1978 as an "exciting, challenging, busy and rewarding year" for the company.

Crawford told the shareholders that 1978 "ended on a much more positive note than it began", adding that the primary reason for that was an improvement in the regulatory climate in Louisiana. Regulatory commissions in both Texas and Louisiana granted GSU rate relief during 1978.

Eleven join ranks of retired

Recent GSU retirees are Junius J. Boutte of Port Arthur; Rose R. Johnson, Beaumont; Lucien J. LeSage, Baton Rouge; John O. McCune, Orange; Calvin A. Oubre, Baton Rouge; Robert J. Peters, Beaumont; Joseph C. Pizzuto, John L. Phillips and Fabian L. Roberts, all of Baton Rouge; Edward J. Trouard of Lake Charles and Edwin C. Wilson of Woodville, Tex.

Boutte, a native of Loreauville, La., joined GSU in 1946 as a garage mechanic in Port Arthur. He was promoted to garage mechanic first class in 1950 and garage shop foreman in 1966. He retired Apr. 1.

Johnson, a departmental clerk in the Beaumont T&D Department, retired May 1 after 21 years of service.

LeSage retired Mar. 1 after 23 years with the company. A native of Thibodeaux, La., he was employed in 1946 as a helper in the Baton Rouge T&D Line Department. He was promoted to line foreman in 1955.

McCune, a senior consumer service representative in Orange, Tex., retired Feb. 1. He had been with the company since 1946.

A native of Garyville, La., Oubre was hired in 1942 as a mechanic's helper at Louisiana Station. Promoted to mechanical maintenance foreman in 1974, Oubre retired early on Mar. 1.

Peters, who joined GSU in 1953, retired early on Apr. 1. A native of Yoakum, Tex., he was promoted to section head, Design-Engineering Construction in the Engineering Design Department in 1969.

Pizzuto, who retired on Mar. 1, joined GSU in 1946 as an appliance repairman in the Baton Rouge T&D Service Department. He is a native of Litcher, La.

Phillips, a utility worker in the Baton Rouge Gas Department, retired Jan. 1.

Roberts, a serviceman first class in the Baton Rouge Gas Department, retired early on May 1. A native of Baton Rouge, he joined the company in 1938 as a helper in the Gas Department.

Trouard, control operations foreman at Nelson Station, was employed by GSU in 1948 as an operator's helper at Nelson. Promoted to control operations foreman in 1959, he retired early on Apr. 1. He is a native of Lake Charles.

A utility foreman in the Woodville T&D Line Department, Wilson joined the company as a T&D helper in 1950. The Lake Charles native was promoted to utility foreman in 1970. He retired early on Mar. 1.



Junius J. Boutte



Rose Johnson



Lucien LeSage



John McCune



Calvin Oubre



Robert Peters



Joseph Pizzuto



Ed Trouard



Edwin Wilson

New financial VP chosen

Joseph L. Donnelly, formerly vice president of finance for Pennsylvania Power & Light Company at Allentown, Pa., was recently elected GSU's senior vice president-financial services.

A native of Scranton, Pa., Donnelly graduated with honors from the University of Scranton and later earned a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania, also with honors.

He worked as a law secretary for the chief justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and was deputy attorney general of the Pennsylvania Department of Justice.

Donnelly joined PP&L in 1958 as assistant counsel and became manager of financial research in 1969. He was elected vice president in 1975.

In PP&L's subsidiary operations, Donnelly was vice president of Hershey Electric Co., vice president and a director of Pennsylvania Mines Co., vice president and a director of Uranium Resources and Development Co., vice president and director of Interstate Energy Co. and president and director of Service Development Co.

He is a member of the American and Pennsylvania Bar Association, Financial Executives Institute, former president of the board of trustees of



Joseph L. Donnelly

Allentown State Hospital and former chairman of the Lehigh County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board.

Donnelly is married to the former Lynn Haakonsen. They have three sons, David, 14; Joseph III, 13; and Haakon, 2.

THRIFT PLAN

Investments made by the Trustee during April, 1979 covering employee deductions and Company contributions through January, 1979 were as follows:

Purchase of Common Stock
Number of Shares — 32,267
Total Cost — \$427,537.75
Average Cost Per Share — \$13.25

The Trustee also made the following deposits:
First Security Bank of Beaumont, \$125,730.31 in Savings.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society \$24,305.97 Guaranteed Fixed Income Fund.

Many local GSU offices get new business hours

Beginning June 1, new business hours go into effect for GSU offices in many areas. The designated offices, formerly operated from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., will be open for business from 8:30 to 5.

"Opening our offices at 8:30 is actually going to help our customers get better service," noted T. G. Franklin, director of Division Accounting Services, adding that the extra half hour will be used for on-the-job training of employees.

Employees working out of the offices with the new business hours are still required to arrive for

work at the regular 8 a.m. starting time.

GSU offices which will have the new business hours are Beaumont, Mid-County, Vidor, Orange, Anahuac, Dayton, Silsbee and Woodville in the Beaumont division; Port Arthur in the Port Arthur division; Conroe, Cleveland, New Caney and Huntsville in the Western division; Lake Charles, Sulphur, Jennings and Lafayette in the Lake Charles division and Baton Rouge in the Baton Rouge division.

All other GSU offices will be open for business from 8 to 5.

NELSON 6 : an orchestra



About 3300 yards of concrete were required to create the eight-foot thick foundation for the massive Nelson 6 stack.

ion of teamwork

Work on GSU's first coal-fired generating unit proceeds on schedule - - - thanks to site boss Joe Cox and crew.



Joe Cox (right) tackles a problem with a member of his crew.

The shadow of the giant crane fell across the sweating faces of workers hurriedly pouring concrete into the huge hole destined to become the foundation for the Nelson 6 chimney. Convoys of concrete trucks roared into the valley of yellow mud, anxious to dump and make the round trip for more.

"Get that roller back on the Creter Crane", shouted Joe Cox, site boss of Nelson 6 construction. "We're down to 90 yards an hour and we planned on 120. Let's get with it."

A seasoned construction superintendent, Cox moved among the workers like a veteran football coach. Urging his people on, he caught every move, every mistake.

WALKING A NARROW plank stretched across the top of the spiderweb of steel bars filling the hole, he explained the need for round-the-clock pouring.

"We could have poured the stack foundation in

pipeline, moved the contents of two concrete trucks simultaneously.

A crane hoisted a two-and-a-half yard bucket back and forth from truck to foundation. A weird looking contraption known as a Creter Crane, used a series of conveyor belts to move freshly dumped concrete from a large hopper to the hole. Together, all three pumped or dumped a total of 500 yards of concrete in the first three hours of pouring. That represented an astonishing 166 yards an hour, far ahead of the 120 yards per hour anticipated.

It was an orchestration of teamwork and Cox was the conductor.

Sound planning was evident. As a concrete truck arrived, an awaiting hopper immediately gulped the load. As a truck pulled out empty, another backed into its place. Meanwhile, bulldozers pushed the mud aside, followed by dump trucks that spread aggregate to give the trucks traction.

A seasoned construction superintendent, Cox moved among the workers like a veteran football coach.

sections and avoided some overtime," he explained, moving aside as the hustling crew swung a huge flexible hose to a new pouring location. "But, you always have problems with binding the sections together, and a solid mass has more strength than one in sections."

As it turned out, the continuous pouring of the massive stack foundation took 23 hours to complete. About 3300 yards of concrete were required to create the approximately eight-foot thick foundation. Octagon in shape, the diameter stretched 110 feet across.

THREE TYPES OF devices were used to accomplish the average pour of over 100 yards of concrete an hour. A portable pump, with an attached

THERE WAS NO confusion. Every action was timed.

Down in the foundation hole, workers pushed long agitators into the slowly creeping mound of wet concrete, moving it into the crevices and holes made by the tons of steel reinforcing bars.

At the surface, a strange looking device was being used to support the pipeline extending from the concrete pump. A fabricated hoist was mounted on wheels that looked much like those on a railroad car. They moved around a circle of steel rail to give workers the capability of moving the hose in a 360 degree arc.

Cox explained that one of the contractor's foremen came up with the idea after much lost time

in manually pulling and straining on the hose while moving it from location to location. "If this rig had been available on the market, it probably wouldn't have worked," quipped Cox as he proudly displayed the time-saving device.

"TIME IS MONEY," he continued. "We try to do everything possible to save time. For instance, when our steel workers are at a standstill on the vertical steel construction, I move them over to the prefab yard where we put our steel together. That way we never get behind."

He described how the rain had turned the site into a sea of yellow gumbo. Not only did the rain create erosion problems, it made truck movement almost impossible. Cox obtained some articulating tractors with four-wheel drive to replace the normal road tractor used in moving material around the site.

"One articulating tractor can do the work of two tractors of the eighteen wheeler variety. These are the same type tractors used on the Alaska pipeline with much success. I don't know what we'd do with out them."

If the precision and teamwork displayed at the foundation pouring is an example, there is little doubt that Nelson 6 will remain on schedule. And, if Cox has his way, Nelson 6 will come on-line below budget and ahead of schedule.

— Ray Funderburk

On The Move

ALBERTO, MARY E., Departmental Clerk, Beaumont Information & Data Services, promoted to Personnel Clerk, Beaumont Personnel Services.

AUBIN, PAUL G., Material Coordinator, assigned to Plant Operations, Beaumont.

BAKER, ALFRED C., Director-Project Administration, assigned to River Bend Project, Beaumont.

BATES, WILLIAM D., Senior Engineering Assistant, Lake Charles T&D, promoted to Right-of-Way Representative.

BESCHER, DONALD W., Utility Foreman, Port Arthur T&D, promoted to Line Foreman.

BREAUX, ROBERT L., Repairman First Class, Sabine Station, promoted to Mechanical Maintenance Foreman.

BREMER, WARREN M., Lineman First Class, Baton Rouge T&D, promoted to Utility Foreman, T&D Line.

BROUSSARD, WILFRED, Consumer Services Representative-Senior, Lake Charles Division Consumer Services, promoted to Consumer Services Coordinator.

BROWN, BENTON G., Quality Assurance Representative, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station, as Quality Representative-Site.

BROWN, HORACE E., Senior Administrative Accountant, Beaumont Accounting Services, changed to Senior Field Accountant.

BRUSCHI, GENE R., Start Up Planning & Scheduling Engineer, assigned to Plant Operations, Beaumont.

CALDER, LESLIE G., Director-Project Administration, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Beaumont.

CALDWELL, BRIAN W., Field Accountant, Beaumont Accounting Services, promoted to Senior Administrative Accountant.

CARRELL, CHERYL B., Stenographer-Executive, Beaumont Nuclear Projects, promoted to Secretary-Executive, Beaumont General Services.

CASSIDY, OMAR K., Engineer, assigned to River Bend Project, Beaumont.

CHAPMAN, MICHAEL W., Site Administrator, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station.

DOWIES, JAMES E., District Accounting Supervisor, Orange Division Accounting, promoted to Supervisor-Centralized Payment Processing, Beaumont Accounting Services.

DOSSETT, WILLIAM M., Quality Assurance Representative, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station, as Quality Representative-Site.

DUBOSE, ELMER H., Confidential Records Clerk, Beaumont Accounting Services, promoted to Administrative Assistant.

DUBOSE, GEORGE K., Project Accountant, Beaumont Fossil Projects, transferred to Beaumont Accounting Services.

DUFFEE, RICHARD S., Administrative Accountant, Orange Division Accounting, promoted to District Accounting Supervisor.

ENGLAND, LESLEY A., Assistant Project Engineer, assigned to River Bend Project, Beaumont.

FAGGARD, ALBERT C., Staff Accountant, Beaumont Rates, promoted to Assistant to Manager-Rates.

FONTENOT, ROBERT J., Engineer, Baton Rouge T&D, transferred to Beaumont Engineering Design.

GIBSON, RICHARD L., Director-Industrial Engineering, assigned to Sabine 5 Project, Sabine Station, as Superintendent-Start Up Services.

GILES, WAYNE D., Engineer, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station.

GRAHAM, CLINTON B., Quality Assurance Representative, assigned to Plant Operations, Beaumont.

GREENE, CRAIG H., Plant Electrical Engineer, assigned to Plant Operations, Beaumont.

GREMILLION, JAMES S., Master Repairman, Louisiana Station, promoted to Mechanical Maintenance Foreman.

GRUBBS, RAYFORD L., Serviceman First Class, Port Arthur T&D, promoted to Utility Foreman, T&D Line.

HELMICK, RANDALL W., Electrical Design Representative, assigned to Site Construction, River Bend Station.

HOLLINGSWORTH, DEWITT C., Supervisor-Consumer Services, Beaumont Division Consumer Services, promoted to Coordinator-Commercial Services, Beaumont System Consumer Services.

JONES, FREEMAN M., Consumer Services Coordinator, Lake Charles Division Consumer Services, changed to Industrial Representative.

JONES, PAUL L., Master Test Technician, Neches Station, promoted to Test Foreman.

KEMP, RAYMOND J., Line Foreman, Port Arthur T&D, promoted to Service Supervisor.

KING, JAMES P., Administrative Accountant, Beaumont Accounting Services, changed to Field Accountant.

KIRKLAND, MARY J., Tabulating Machine Operator, Beaumont Information & Data Services, promoted to Confidential Records Clerk, Accounting Services.

LAMINACK, ERNEST R., Systems Analyst, Beaumont Information & Data Services, changed to Rate Analyst, Beaumont Rates.

LAPHAM, MICHAEL A., Engineer, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station.

LARRIVIERE, FRANCIS B., Relay Engineer, Beaumont Engineering Design, promoted to Coordinator-Load Management, Beaumont System Consumer Services.

LEAVINES, JOSEPH W., Engineer, assigned to River Bend Project, Beaumont.

LOOFBOURROW, STEVEN J., Engineer, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station.

LUM, BETTY J., Confidential Records Clerk, Beaumont Accounting Services, promoted to Personnel Records Clerk, Beaumont Compensation Services.

LUNDHOLM, ROBERT C., Engineer, assigned to Sabine 5 Project, Sabine Station.

MAUER, JOHN F., Tax Accountant, Beaumont Tax Services, promoted to Senior Tax Accountant.

MINNER, JAMES W., Service Supervisor, Port Arthur T&D, changed to Supervisor-Building & Garage Services.

MOODY, JAMES D., Cost Analyst, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station.

MOSS, JAMES E., Superintendent-Sabine Station, promoted to Manager-Power Supply, reporting to the Senior Vice President-Production.

MOTL, CAROLYN H., Stenographer-Senior, Beaumont T&D, promoted to Personnel Department Clerk, Beaumont Personnel Services.

NORMAND, VANCE J., Construction Supervisor, assigned to Site Construction, River Bend Station.

O'NEILL, ANN B., Personnel Department Clerk, Beaumont Professional Recruiting, promoted to Stenographer-Executive, Beaumont Personnel Services.

PATOLIA, MANUBHAI H., Planning Analyst, assigned to Nelson Coal project, Beaumont.

PETRY, CHARLES C., Test Foreman, Neches Station, transferred to Sabine Station.

RAMAKKA, STEVEN T., Engineer, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Beaumont.

REED, WILLIAM J., Supervisor-Nuclear Licensing, assigned to River Bend Project, Beaumont.

REEVES, THOMAS W., Design Engineer-Construction, Beaumont Engineering Design, promoted to Supervisor-Transmission Standards & Equipment.

REISER, BENJAMIN W., Coordinator-Construction Services, Beaumont Material Services, promoted to Coordinator-Material Services, Beaumont Fossil Projects.

REYNOLDS, DAVID B., Coordinator-Project Administration, assigned to River Bend Project, Beaumont.

ROBERSON, ROBERT J., Senior Draftsman, Beaumont Engineering Design, promoted to Section Head.

SCHNEIDER, ALYCE S., Stenographer-Senior, Beaumont Financial Services, promoted to Stenographer-Executive.

SERRATT, BELINDA M., Cash Management Analyst, Beaumont Financial Services, promoted to Supervisor-Short Term Finance.

SHARP, BOBBY J., Administrative Accountant, Beaumont Accounting Services, changed to Field Accountant.

SMYTHIA, DAVID L., Engineer, Beaumont Planning Department, transferred to Beaumont Power Plant Engineering & Design.

SPAFFORD, DOLORES R., General Clerk, Beaumont Accounting Services, promoted to Section Head.

SPURLOCK, JIMMY D., Serviceman First Class, Woodville T&D, promoted to Utility Foreman, T&D Line.

STAFFORD, ROBERT B., Supervisor-Quality Surveillance, assigned to Quality Assurance, Beaumont, as Supervisor-Quality Systems.

STANFIELD, IRIS, S., Stenographer-Executive, Beaumont Personnel Services, promoted to Secretary-Executive, Beaumont Executive-Secretarial Staff.

STOKES, ISAAC G., Meter Reader Supervisor, Baton Rouge Division Accounting, promoted to Coordinator-Consumer Accounts.

STUART, WILLIAM S., Quality Assurance Representative, assigned to Quality Assurance, Beaumont, as Quality Systems Representative.

THAGGARD, CAROLYN V., Stenographer-Executive, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Beaumont.

THIBODEAUX, NATHAN J., Utility Foreman, Baton Rouge T&D, promoted to Line Foreman.

THUET, DARRO J., Engineer, assigned to Nelson Coal Project, Nelson Station.

TILLET, GEORGE C., Supervisor-Nuclear Results, assigned to Nuclear Services, Beaumont.

TYLER, DOUGLAS R., Line Foreman, Lake Charles T&D, transferred to Sulphur T&D.

UNCAPHER, JAMES P., Engineer, Beaumont Power Plant Engineering & Design, promoted to Supervisor-Project Mechanical Engineering.

UPTON, JOHN C., Industrial Engineer, Lake Charles Division Consumer Services, promoted to Supervisor-Energy Management Services, Baton Rouge Division Consumer Services.

Service Awards



J. S. Rougeau
Electric T&D Dept.
Orange
40 Years



Thomas W. Mitcham, Jr.
Electric T&D Dept.
Orange
30 Years



Alonzo D. Sandifer
Division Production
Baton Rouge
30 Years



Raymond E. Jarreau
Electric T&D Dept.
Baton Rouge
20 Years



John H. Reeves, Jr.
Electric T&D Dept.
Baton Rouge
20 Years



Mary R. Elliot
Division Accounting
Conroe
10 Years



John J. Hamby, Jr.
System Eng. Transmission
& Planning
Beaumont
10 Years



Bobby Flanagan
Plain Talks learned recently that the caption appearing with the 30-year service anniversary picture of Bobby Flanagan (storeroom, Beaumont) credited him with only 20 years of service. We regret the error and extend our apologies to Bobby.

WALKER, NOLAN E., General Maintenance Supervisor, Beaumont Nuclear Projects, changed to Maintenance Engineer, Sabine Station.

WALTON, MARK E., Nuclear Staff Analyst, assigned to River Bend project, River Bend Station.

WATT, BILLIE P., Equipment Operator, Lewis Creek Station, promoted to Control Operations Foreman.

WEBB, KENNETH T., Supervisor-Industrial Relations, Baton Rouge Industrial Relations, promoted to Director-Industrial Relations, Beaumont.

WELCH, EDWARD G., Communications Serviceman First Class, Lake Charles T&D, promoted to Coordinator-Telecommunications, Beaumont Office Services.

WELLS, DON H., Radiation Protection Specialist, assigned to Plant Operations, Beaumont.

WHEELER, DAVID M., Engineer, assigned to Nuclear Services, Beaumont.

WHELESS, BEVERLY B., Clerk, Beaumont Accounting Services, promoted to Confidential Records Clerk.

WOODALL, ANGELA D., Stenographer, Beaumont Division Accounting, promoted to Personnel Clerk, Beaumont Professional Recruiting.

ZAMMIT, JOSEPH E., General Maintenance Supervisor, Louisiana Station, transferred to Willow Glen Station.

ZOCH, ERWIN J., Engineer, Beaumont Power Plant Engineering & Design, promoted to Lead Nuclear Engineer, Beaumont Nuclear Projects.

Deaths

Three active and seven retired employees have died since the last notices were published in *Plain Talks*.

Recently deceased retired employees are **Sharkey J. Bergeron** and **Glenn R. Delaney**, both of Beaumont; **Thomas E. Farlow**, Lake Charles; **Aulden Earl Hine** and **Charles Heichelheim III**, both of Jennings, La.; **Nelson B. Key**, Calvert, Tex., and **Morris Locke**, Baton Rouge.

Missing now among the active employees are **Claude D. Adams**, Baton Rouge; **Stephen E. Aucoin**, Port Arthur and **Hansford R. Rouse**, Beaumont.

Bergeron, 72, died Apr. 8. A retired gas engineer in Baton Rouge, he joined the company in 1929. The White Castle, La., native is survived by his wife, Dorothy.

A native of Little Rock, Ark., Delaney joined GSU in 1923 as a laborer at Neches Station. He was promoted to master repairman in 1961 and retired in 1963. Delaney was 80 at the time of his death Jan. 21. He is survived by his wife, Lucile.

Farlow retired in 1969 after 43 years of service. He was employed in 1926 as a helper in the Lake Charles T&D Department and became service supervisor in 1948. The Lake Charles native retired in 1969. He died Apr. 19.

Hine, who retired from GSU in 1973, died on Mar. 13. A native of Elton, La., he served the company

for 45 years. The former line crew foreman is survived by his wife, Wilda.

A native of Monroe, La., Heichelheim died Jan. 29. Hired in 1946 as a T&D helper in Jennings, he was promoted to utility foreman in 1969. Survived by his wife, Ethel, he was 53.

Key, a laborer in the Calvert T&D Department retired in 1972 after 23 years with the company. A native of Alabama, he began his GSU career in 1939 as a laborer and progressed to laborer II in 1953. He died Apr. 10. His wife, Jodie Lee, survives him.

A native of Geismar, La., Locke joined the company in 1928 as a laborer in the Baton Rouge T&D Department. He retired in 1968. Survived by his wife, Cecile, Locke died Jan. 24. He was 72.

Adams was a utility man in the Baton Rouge T&D Line Department at the time of his death Feb. 15. He joined the company in 1941.

Aucoin, a lifelong resident of Groves, Tex., died Apr. 11. The 20-year-old employee worked as a helper in the Port Arthur T&D Department.

A native of Beaumont, Rouse died Apr. 30. The company's manager of tax services, he joined GSU in 1956 as a senior accounting clerk in the Accounting Department. Prior to being named manager of tax services in 1975, Rouse had served as assistant treasurer and general director of the Tax Department. The University of Texas graduate was 48.



Tom Harris drives off #1.

C. White wins Livewire golf

Over forty GSU golfers teed off at Wildwood near Beaumont recently to compete in the annual Livewire Golf Tournament. Charles White of the Beaumont Division had the lowest score of 76.

Trophies were awarded for first thru fourth places. Travis Bridwell won a trophy in the closest to the hole contest. A trophy for the longest drive went to Lyle Gerac.

Golfers from Port Arthur won more trophies than other divisions.

The following were winners in their respective flights.

Championship Flight

1. James Musgrove (guest)
2. Charles White
3. Luther Risher
4. Lyle Gerac

1st Flight

1. Ed Hodges
2. Clyde McBride
3. Rufus Mier
4. Gerald Bailey

2nd Flight

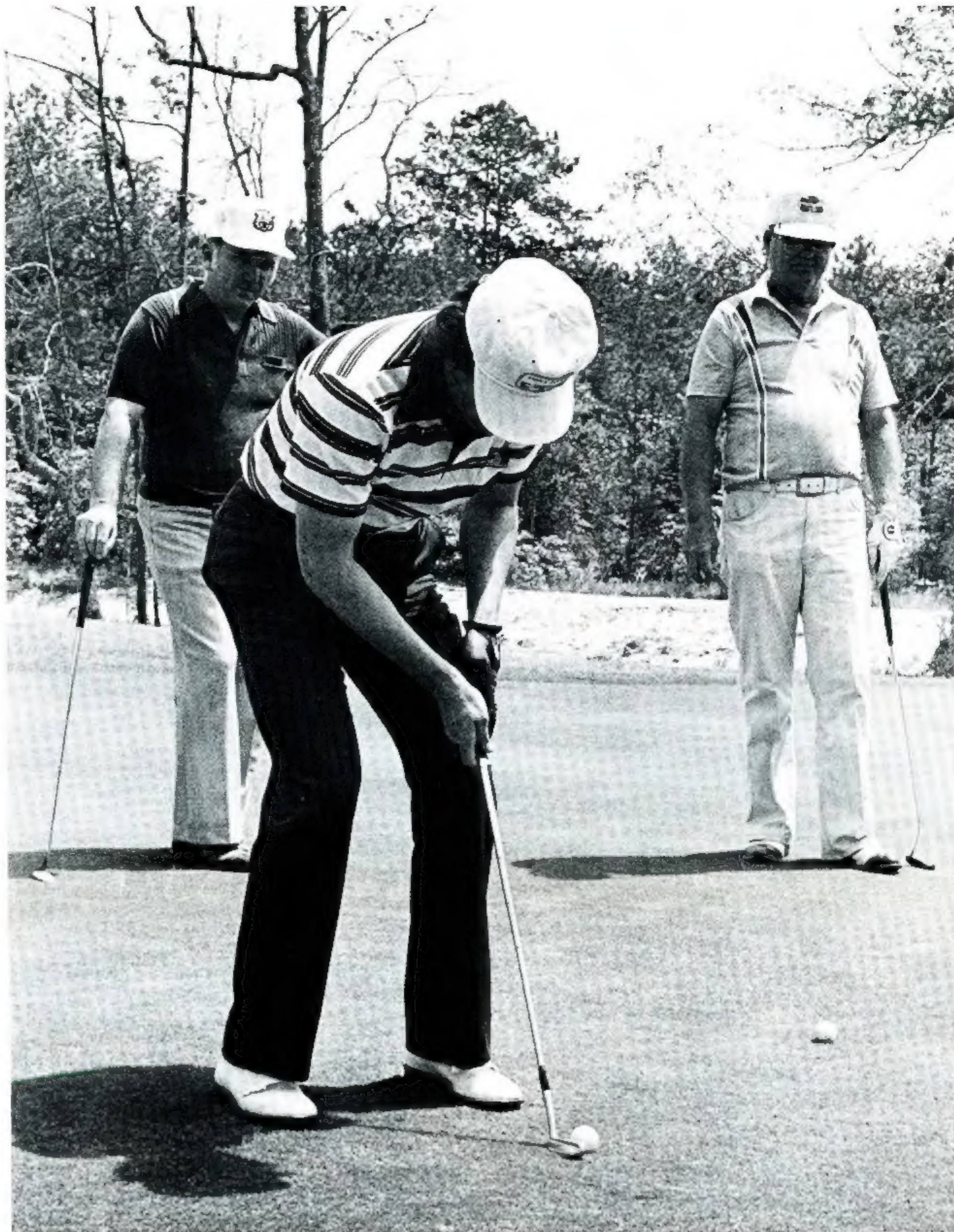
1. Ronald Carlin
2. James Fernandez
3. Gene Russell
4. Tony Causey

3rd Flight

1. David Riley
2. Jim Minner
3. Chip Knowles
4. Arden Loughmiller

4th Flight

1. Bud Harless
2. Greg Hutchins
3. Steve Skelton
4. Carl Heubach



(left to right) Jim Fernandez, Ronnie Carlin and Jim Minner putting on the fifth green.



Art Lecoq and Phyllis Liddle post the scores.



Charlie White shot the lowest net score of the tourney.

Inside GSU



For several years, Charles Bordeman's (Beaumont supervisor of customer accounts) office crew has celebrated April Fool's Day in a rather unusual way — by coming to work in masquerade. In keeping with tradition, this year the ladies masqueraded as "farmer's daughters", many complete with pigtails and freckles. They are: (front row, from left) Starr Woodall, Valerie Jones, Sandra Latimer, Karen Theriot, (back row, from left) Marsha Cozad, Charmayne Pierce, Charlotte Bass, Sondra Youman and Melba Gipson.



Kenneth W. Parks, son of Robert L. Parks, Lake Charles serviceman, is shown above with his new bride, the former Shawn Jinks. Kenneth was graduated magna cum laude from Louisiana Tech on Mar. 1. He plans to enter the LSU Dental School in New Orleans in September.



James Thomas Lytle, son of Dewey Lytle, Baton Rouge T&D, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at the Court of Honor on March 5. James has been active in the Boy Scouts, Istrouma Area Council, Troop 128, for more than four years. A 17-year-old junior at Broadmoor High School in Baton Rouge, his hobbies are playing the guitar, mechanics and art.



Paul Anawaty, Consumer Affairs, Beaumont, is shown above holding his hours-old daughter, Tina. Born Apr. 23, Tina weighed in at 9 pounds, 6 ounces. She is the granddaughter of Maurice Anawaty, retired shop foreman at the Beaumont Service Center. Paul and his wife Vi, have another child, Todd, who is 20 months.

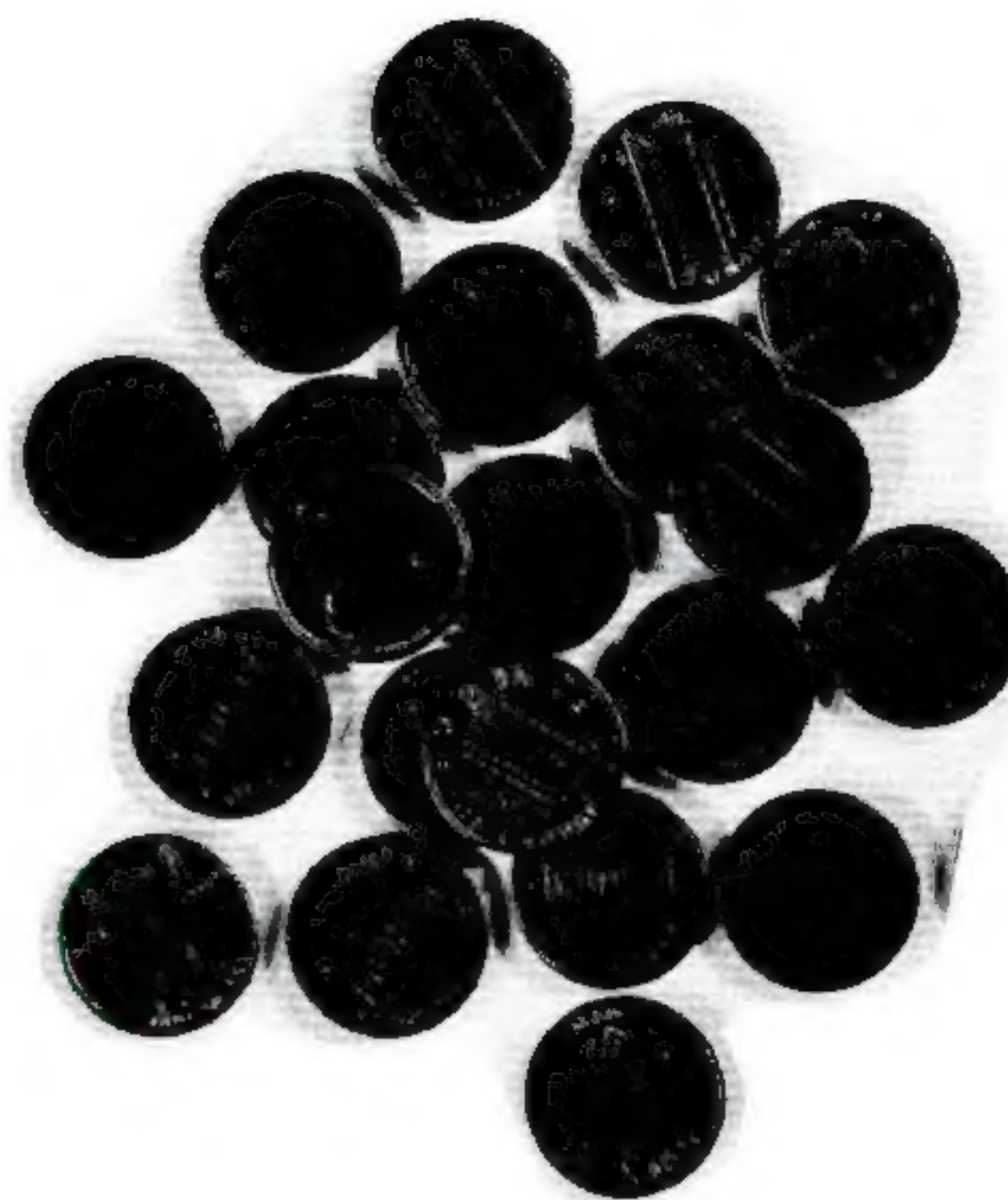


Vivian Jackson, daughter of Clement B. Jackson, Lewis Creek Production Department, has been named to the 1979 Derrick Dolls, cheerleading squad for the Houston Oilers football team. Vivian, a 1975 graduate of Conroe High School where she was a football cheerleader for two years, models and dances at various shopping malls. (from D. W. Rutherford)



Lynn Fails, daughter of Wayne Fails, communications foreman in the Lake Charles Relay & Communications Department, has been named co-valedictorian at LaGrange High School. She maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average during her high school years. Listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students", Lynn plans to attend McNeese State University and major in marketing. (from Dorothy Bennett)

Electricity: still a centsible buy



Nobody likes inflation. We're reminded daily that the cost of living has almost doubled in less than 20 years.

We see inflation's effect almost everywhere — at the gas pump, the supermarket and in the electric bill. But if you compare that bill with the cost of other items on your family budget, you'll find electricity is still a good buy.

According to the Edison Electric Institute (EEI), the average residential customer used 3,854 kwh a year in 1960, at a cost of 2.47 cents per kwh. In 1977, that same customer used 8,693 kwh at 3.78 cents per kwh.

Although the amount of electricity we're using more than doubled in 18 years, the unit cost increased by only 53%, says EEI. Considering that the cost of living surged ahead by 92.8% during that same period (U.S. Dept. of Labor estimate), electricity looks reasonably priced.

How does your electric bill compare with your other expenses? Very favorably, says the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Bureau statistics show that in 1978, the average family spent 21.5% of its budget on food, beverages and tobacco, 15.5% on housing and 14.5% for transportation. Another 7.9% went for clothing, accessories and jewelry and 6.2% for recreation. The electric bill accounted for a modest 2.1%

Now consider all the jobs electricity does: lights your rooms, cooks your food, cleans your clothes, keeps you cool at home and at work, even powers your stereo and tv.

Maybe we can't escape inflation. But it's reassuring to know there's something that still offers good value for your dollar.